



Water Resources Division's Aquatic Invasive Species of the Week!

FOR THE WEEK OF:

September 2-8, 2013

Parrot Feather *Myriophyllum aquaticum*

Member of the "Least Wanted"

Origin: Native to South America

Current Distribution: At least 26 states, including the southern states and up the Atlantic coast. The west coast has verified occurrences as well. NOT YET ESTABLISHED IN MICHIGAN!

Means of Introduction: Escaped from aquaria and aquatic gardens. It is a "Prohibited Plant Species" in Michigan. It cannot be sold or grown in the state.

Description: Aquatic plant 6-17 ft in length. Leaves are bright blue-green, densely whorled. Often mistaken for Eurasian watermilfoil.

Habitat: Found in lakes, ponds, slow streams

Impacts: Forms dense mats and competes with native aquatic plants. Provides habitat for mosquito larvae and can impede lake recreation.



Photo: Graves Lovell, AL DCNR



Photo: Leslie J. Mehroff, U of Connecticut, Bugwood.org



Photo: Graves Lovell, AL DCNR Bugwood.org

For more information on reporting an
invasive or identification, please visit
the DEQ's website:

www.michigan.gov/aquaticinvasives

or Michigan State University's

website: www.misin.msu.edu